

Dear Sirs/Madams;

It has come to my attention that a form of Internet service is progressively being tested (or about to be) over existing power lines. Based on studies, this form of transmission would cause serious interference to Amateur radio services among many other spectrum users. Also because data would flow through power lines, this may cause unforeseen interference in home and business Internet connectivity, telephones (home and business), television sets, home theater systems or anything else that requires the use of electricity and radio frequencies. For this reason Japan has banned PLC for the time being.

While I think PLC can have enormous benefits to rural consumers, it cannot be at the expense of all other airwave users. It is imperative that the potential widespread interference from such design be studied, tested, and eliminated before any implementation is entertained. As a member of the Amateur Radio community, I want to point out that such a service in its current configuration could severely hinder communications on those bands to the point of driving operators to drop their licenses. Given the amount of public service that Amateur Radio Operators provide, such as the recent tornadoes in the Midwest, this would cause a serious negative impact to public safety during disasters.

I urge you to move very slowly on this technology and to NOT implement it until all possible interference to other services is eliminated.

Thank you for your time,
Lorin Wiandt / N4LEW